



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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DUCK STAMP DESIGN CONTEST ANNOUNCED

Waterfowl artists — amateur and professional — are all eligible for the 1950-51 "Duck Stamp" Competition for the selection of next year's design for the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp, Albert M. Day, Fish and Wildlife Service director announces.

An impartial judging committee will review all entries and select the design to be used on the new duck stamp, explains Director Day. The artists' names will be covered and the designs judged solely on their merits.

The entries, which are to be submitted on or before January 2, 1950, must be 5 by 7 in size and in black and white only. The pictures should be protected by being placed on a mat and covered with cellophane — no pictures in wooden frames or under glass can be accepted.

The artists will be given a wide latitude in the choice of medium — pen and ink, oil, watercolor, etching, pencil, etc. — and in their subject. The subject, of course, must be a true-to-life portrait of wild waterfowl. Most of the winning entries in previous years were of ducks and geese in action. At any rate, the birds should be in position and plumage "as the hunter sees them."

The design must bear no lettering or scroll work. The name of the species shown and the author's signature should appear below the picture so as to be readily visible when photographic prints are made of the accepted design for distribution.

The sixteen species that have been represented on the stamps, and the dates of issue, are: 1934, mallards; 1935, canvas-backs; 1936, Canada geese; 1937, scaup; 1938, pintails; 1939, green-wing teal; 1940, black ducks; 1941, ruddy ducks; 1942, widgeon; 1943, wood ducks; 1944, white fronted geese; 1945, shovellers; 1946, red-heads; 1947, snow geese; 1948, buffleheads; 1949, goldeneyes.

Other species, which have never been used and which the artists may wish to consider, are: blue geese, emperor geese, cackling geese, American brant, black brant, trumpeter swans, whistling swans, coot or mud hen, bluewing teal, cinnamon teal, gadwall, ringneck duck, American merganser, red breasted merganser, hooded merganser, old squaw, harlequin, white-wing scoter, surf scoter, American scoter, king eider, spectacled eider, Pacific eider, or any other species of wild waterfowl in North America.

Competition entries should be mailed prepaid and well-wrapped to the Duck Stamp Contest, Division of Information, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C. The artist's name and address should be carefully marked on the package.

The winning artist will receive no direct compensation, but the distinction is unique and worthwhile. Many of the winning artists in former years have been able to capitalize on their designs by selling autographed prints; all such projects, however, are subject to the terms of the contract the winning artist signs with the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Few events have ever exerted a more profound effect on the conservation of American waterfowl than the passage of the original duck stamp legislation. Besides providing funds to be used directly for refuges, the interest in the whole problem of waterfowl conservation has been greatly increased by the duck stamps.

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